REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed July 19, 2007 from the United States Patent and Trademark Office, the Examiner rejected claims 20-27 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter and rejected claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,233,404 to Meilstrup et al. (hereinafter "Meilstrup"). Applicant respectfully provides the following.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101:

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 20-27 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant has amended the claims to recite a computer readable medium in the first line of the claim and respectfully submit that the rejections are made moot by the amendment. Applicant therefore respectfully requests removal of the rejections.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e):

In the Office Action, claims 1-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Meilstrup. M.P.E.P. § 2131 sets forth the standard for a rejection of a claim as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102. "To anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim." M.P.E.P. § 2131 states further,

> "A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). . . . "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the . . . claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

Applicant respectfully submits that the reference cited by the Examiner fails to teach every element of the claim set as provided herein for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1, as amended, requires: In a system that includes a heterogeneous imaging device and a homogenous imaging device, wherein the heterogeneous imaging device is a physical imaging device, a method for enabling the heterogeneous imaging device to operate as a homogeneous device, the method comprising: initiating an imaging job that is compatible with an imaging driver for the homogenous imaging device for rendering within the system; using a virtual job control interpreter at the heterogeneous imaging device to render at least a portion of the imaging job, wherein the virtual job control interpreter uses a job control device profile that is compatible with the imaging driver for mapping job control commands into one or more internal job control actions compatible with the heterogeneous imaging device; and rendering the at least a portion of the imaging job at the heterogeneous imaging device." Applicant respectfully submits that Meilstrup fails to teach the identical features of claim 1 in complete detail as is required to sustain a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Claim 1, as amended, requires initiating an imaging job that is compatible with an imaging driver for the homogenous imaging device, and further requires that the heterogeneous imaging device, which is a physical imaging device, render at least a portion of the imaging job. As is set forth in the specification, the heterogeneous imaging device is able to render a portion of a print job compatible with an imaging driver for the homogeneous imaging device because the virtual job control interpreter at the heterogeneous imaging device uses the job control device profile that is compatible with the imaging driver to map job control commands into internal job control actions compatible with the heterogeneous imaging device. Meilstrup teaches printer emulators to be used <u>instead of</u> actual printers (Col 1 lines 7-8; Col 2 lines 46-47). Therefore,

Meilstrup does not teach the recited limitation of "using a virtual job control interpreter <u>at the</u> <u>heterogeneous imaging device</u>."

Claim 1 also requires that <u>the virtual job control interpreter uses the job control device</u> <u>profile</u> for mapping job control commands into one or more internal job control actions compatible with the heterogeneous imaging device. Meilstrup teaches a system for processing print jobs that utilizes virtual printers made up of a receiver and a printer emulator. (Col 2 line 67-Col 3 line 1) The receiver receives a print job and passes it to the printer emulator, and the printer emulator converts the job into an intermediate output format. (Col 1 lines 51-54; Fig 1) However, nothing in Meilstrup teaches a job control device profile used by a virtual job control interpreter for mapping job control commands into one or more internal job control actions compatible with the heterogeneous imaging device.
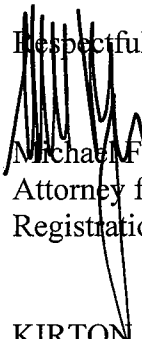
Therefore, because Meilstrup fails to teach every element of claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that Meilstrup fails to anticipate claim 1. Independent claims 13 and 20 contain similar limitations to those discussed above regarding claim 1 and are similarly allowable. Claims 2-12, 14-19, and 21-27 depend from one of claims 1, 13, and 20, and add additional limitations to said claims, and are therefore also allowable. Applicant therefore respectfully requests removal of all rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the amendments made herein do not add new matter and that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests favorable reconsideration. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this communication, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,

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